

learning to read and write at the age of 10. Fong dedicated his young life to helping others. In 2014 he was elected by his peers to lead the H.M.O.N.G youth program—a program designed to help at-risk youth by teaching and encouraging other young students the importance of volunteerism and preserving the Hmong culture. He organized a local class to teach Hmong youth how to read and write in Hmong, and also organized and led the Qhuas Peb Lub Npe Hmoob Zoo, a cultural event planned entirely by the Hmong youth for the community.

In addition to his leadership position, Mr. Moua has spent countless hours bettering the community through mentoring and volunteering at local organizations such as the Hmong American Center, Inc., where he assisted with the Hmong New Year celebration, and Dream Big: 2056 Scholarship Fundraiser that provides opportunities for Hmong students to pursue an education.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Mr. Moua on his volunteer accomplishments and being named the youth Paul Bunyan Award winner. His selfless demeanor in which he answers the call to serve in our district is truly valued.

A BILL TO ESTABLISH AN ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR THE GUAM CNMI VISA WAIVER PROGRAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that would authorize and establish an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program, and direct revenue from the established system to fund CEP operations and staffing needs for ports of entry in Guam and the CNMI.

The regional Guam-CNMI VWP recognizes Guam's unique location in Asia, and the need to be more competitive for tourists from other Asian nations. With Guam's primary source of economic revenue being tourism from Asia, my legislation would address several issues that have hampered the industry and that continues to cost CBP millions of dollars annually in processing costs. The majority of foreign arrivals at Guam International Airport are those traveling under the Guam-CNMI VWP, and long immigration lines are a recurring issue due to limited staffing capacity when arrivals peak at Guam International Airport. At their peak—sometimes 1,200 passengers arrive when multiple flights arrive nearly simultaneously—the wait times at immigration can be as long as two and a half hours.

I recognize that there are complaints about long wait lines at other international ports of entries including Guam. However, many of our visitors come from Japan and South Korea. In fact, some Japan television shows and radio programs have mocked the long lines and wait times at Guam International Airport. The flight from Japan or South Korea is a little over 3 hours and, sadly, some of these visitors have waited about as long in line. That is unacceptable and runs counter to the President's goal of improving the arrivals process for inter-

national travelers arriving in the United States, as outlined in a memorandum to heads of executive departments and agencies on May 22, 2014. My legislation would work to address the problems that are occurring with long wait times at our respective port of entries. Tourism is critical to the economies of the region, and we cannot let an antiquated visitor entry system and inadequate staffing harm our economy.

Establishing an ESTA specific to the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program would help to address several issues faced by visitors arriving at Guam International Airport. First, the current process relies on a paper-based system which is cumbersome and only adds to the delays when arriving. The bill would allow CBP to automate that process and, as a result, save an estimated \$4 million annually that is used by CBP to process and file the paper forms. This is a common sense reform that will save the federal government money and improve the customer experience at Guam International Airport and ports of entry in the CNMI.

Admittedly, CBP has the authority to create an ESTA system for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program; however, they do not have the authority to direct revenues collected from this automated process towards staffing at ports of entry in Guam and CNMI. As such, it is the consensus of tourism industry leaders and other stakeholders that there is an ultimate need for this legislation. I am informed that staffing has not increased in Guam since after the 9/11 attacks. The CBP staffing pattern was sufficient, but as the number of tourists grows on Guam the lines have also grown and the staffing has not kept up with demand. Making the visitor entry process into ports of entry in Guam and CNMI electronic is part of the solution, but additional staffing is still required especially since nearly 50% of our visitors are first-time visitors and cannot avail themselves of Automated Passport Control (APC) systems.

Earlier this month, Guam once again hosted the Electric Island Festival (EIF), a two-day event which brings together DJs from the Asia-Pacific region. Nearly 4,000 visitors attended EIF last year. I am both proud and humbled at the innovative programming that brings people from all over the world to Guam. Further, in late May and early June Guam hosted the Festival of the Pacific Arts (FestPac) a once every four years major regional cultural event, and is the largest gathering in which Pacific peoples unite to enhance their respect and appreciation of one another. A significant number of visitors came to Guam to participate in FestPac, and I appreciate the commitment of Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske to ensure there was adequate staffing at Guam International Airport. But that additional staffing was accomplished by approving extra overtime for employees which is a costly endeavor. Events like FestPac and EIF show the maturation and growth of Guam's tourism industry. Improving the processes and capabilities of our ports of entry to ensure a pleasant experience for our visitors is a top priority, and the solutions must be long-standing and sustainable. We cannot simply rely on overtime of employees to meet the current and emerging demands at our main international port of entry.

An ESTA for the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program is an innovative, sustainable, com-

mon-sense, and cost-saving solution that would not only save the federal government millions and increase resources to improve CBP capabilities. More importantly, it would ultimately modernize and improve a Visa Waiver Program that continues to benefit the people of Guam and CNMI. My bill would help ensure that federal policy enhances economic opportunities and development in our region instead of being an impediment.

HONORING MR. HERB LAMB

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Herb Lamb, whom the Napa County Farm Bureau posthumously named the 2016 Agriculturalist of the Year. Herb passed away on December 10, 2014, after 64 remarkable years.

A native of Vallejo, California, Herb moved with his family to Napa when he was eight. After graduating with a degree in Soil Science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, he returned to Napa and started a vineyard consulting business. Herb and his business partner, Dennis Hansen, opened the Napa Valley Ag Supply in 1983, one of the first agricultural chemical businesses in the Napa Valley.

Herb knew Napa vineyards like the back of his hand. In his 35 years of work in agriculture, he became acquainted with nearly every vineyard manager and winery owner in our Napa community. From large landowners developing vineyard properties to local homeowners wanting a secret weapon to kill a backyard orchard pest, Herb offered everyone the same knowledgeable consideration and interest.

Herb volunteered his time often, and our community remembers him for his kindness coupled with a sincere desire to help. He was a supporter of the local 4-H and Future Farmers of America, a former member of the St. Helena Rotary, a Native Son of the Golden West, and served on the board of the Napa Valley Grapegrowers.

Mr. Speaker, Herb Lamb was known as a legend for his knowledge of the Napa Valley and commitment to our wine community, as well as his gentle and jovial spirit. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JESSIE
"ROY" ROBINSON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brigadier General Jessie "Roy" Robinson, the retiring Director, Joint Staff, Joint Force Headquarters of the Mississippi National Guard. Through General Robinson's role as Director, Joint Staff, he provides oversight and strategic planning to ensure the overall readiness of the Mississippi National Guard. This vital position entails not only personal readiness, but maintaining readiness of facilities, equipment, supplies, funds, and supporting services.